

## Daily Report - Yosemite National Park

**Friday, October 10, 2008**

### Weather

**Yosemite:** TODAY...MOSTLY SUNNY. A 20 PERCENT CHANCE OF SNOW SHOWERS IN THE AFTERNOON. WINDY...COLDER. HIGHS 50 TO 60 IN YOSEMITE VALLEY...26 TO 36 IN THE HIGH COUNTRY. GUSTS UP TO 60 MPH IN THE MORNING.

.TONIGHT...MOSTLY CLOUDY WITH A 20 PERCENT CHANCE OF SNOW SHOWERS. WINDY...COLDER. LOWS 19 TO 29 IN YOSEMITE VALLEY...6 TO 16 IN THE HIGH COUNTRY.

.SATURDAY...MOSTLY SUNNY WITH A 20 PERCENT CHANCE OF SNOW SHOWERS. WINDY. HIGHS 50 TO 60 IN YOSEMITE VALLEY...27 TO 37 IN THE HIGH COUNTRY.

.SATURDAY NIGHT...MOSTLY CLEAR. BREEZY. LOWS 20 TO 30 IN YOSEMITE VALLEY...6 TO 16 IN THE HIGH COUNTRY.

.SUNDAY...SUNNY. HIGHS 51 TO 61 IN YOSEMITE VALLEY...33 TO 43 IN THE HIGH COUNTRY.

.SUNDAY NIGHT AND COLUMBUS DAY...CLEAR...WARMER. LOWS 22 TO 32 IN YOSEMITE VALLEY...9 TO 19 IN THE HIGH COUNTRY. HIGHS 63 TO 73 IN YOSEMITE VALLEY...45 TO 55 IN THE HIGH COUNTRY.

.MONDAY NIGHT AND TUESDAY...CLEAR. LOWS 34 TO 44 IN YOSEMITE VALLEY...23 TO 33 IN THE HIGH COUNTRY. HIGHS 71 TO 81 IN YOSEMITE VALLEY...56 TO 66 IN THE HIGH COUNTRY.

**El Portal: Today:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 63. West northwest wind 8 to 11 mph increasing to between 17 and 20 mph.

**Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 26. North wind between 11 and 17 mph.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 64. North northwest wind between 11 and 17 mph.

**Saturday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 24. North northeast wind between 10 and 14 mph.

**Sunday:** Sunny, with a high near 64. East northeast wind 7 to 13 mph becoming west northwest.

**Sunday Night:** Clear, with a low around 29.

**Columbus Day:** Sunny, with a high near 77.

**Monday Night:** Clear, with a low around 38.

**Tuesday:** Sunny, with a high near 84.

### New Today

**Location Change for Hydroclimatology Conference:** We will meet at the Tudor Room in the Ahwahnee 8am-noon today, October 10th (NOT the Cliff Room at Yosemite Lodge) (J. Roche - 10/10/08)

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**Campground Updates:** Lower Pines and the Valley Backpackers campgrounds will close on October 13th for the season. (S. Ogden - 10/10/08)

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**Fall Festival, Comfort Food Cook-off and Sustainability Fair!** A fun community building/ fundraising event! October 25th, Saturday afternoon from 2 to 10 pm. Costume contests for kids, carnival games and prizes. Everyone is welcome to: set up a booth to raise funds/ vend your crafts/ share something Autumn or environmentally associated. NEED VOLUNTEERS!! No charge for participation! Call/ email Jen Meno 209 379 2608. For a complete flyer see post office board. Call/ Jen Meno 209 379 2608 or email [menosinelportal@hotmail.com](mailto:menosinelportal@hotmail.com) (J. Meno - 10/10/08)

### Happening Today/This Weekend (Check the Community News section for other events)

#### **Wawona Road Construction Work Update**

In order to take advantage of this weather window Hardrives Construction will be working this Friday, October 10 and Monday Oct 13. The work will be south of the tunnel. If delays exceed 15 minutes the project will shut down for the day. Park contact is Lou Summerfield 379-1089. (L. Summerfield - 10/9/08)

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**Gas Station Open / Closure Updates:** Tuolumne Gas Station upgrades are complete and the station has reopened with 24/ hr credit card usage at the pumps. The Mountain Shop has closed for the season. The station will remain open until

November 1, weather permitting.

The Wawona Gas Station will be receiving it's vapor recovery upgrades beginning on October 20th. The station will be closed through November 21st. Please relay to our guests and employees of the closure. The closest fuel will be available at Crane Flat, El Portal, or Oakhurst, outside the Park on Hwy 41. (D. Anthonijsz - 10/8/08)

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**Our weekly Safety topic for the week of October 6 is Universal Waste.** What exactly is universal waste and how do we dispose of it correctly? Consult your weekly safety training binder or the Health and Safety website [www.yose.nps.gov/yosenet/safety](http://www.yose.nps.gov/yosenet/safety) for the training materials for this week. (C. Ronay - 10/6/08)

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**Wine Tasting Event Sat Oct 11 2-5 in Wawona** - This popular event has earned its reputation by serving great food, hand-rolled chocolate truffles, generous samplings of very good wine, and friendly and informative servers. Join the Yosemite Rotary and DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite at the Wawona Hotel. Many great door prizes, a fine silent auction, a free wine glass, a discount for dinner and a discount to stay at the historic Wawona Hotel. Saturday, October 11, from 2:00pm-5:00pm. Tickets are \$25 and are available at the Wawona Hotel front desk, from Dave Stone 372-8459, Jonathan Bayless 372-0282, or at the event. Hope to see you there. Save that date for a great time. (R. Santos - 9/22/08)

## **Bear Facts**

**Week of September 28- October 4, 2008**

**21 bears have been hit by vehicles this year. Slow down!**

### **Bear Incidents This Week**

Parking Lots	0	\$0
Campgrounds	0	\$0
Other Areas (Concession Facilities and Residential Areas)	1	\$30
Backcountry	0	\$0
Total	1	\$30
		<b>All Areas Yearly Total</b>
Parking Lots	156	\$57,022
Campgrounds	107	\$2,626
Other Areas (Concession Facilities and Residential Areas)	90	\$6,484
Backcountry Areas	24	\$898
Total	377	\$67,030

\*Additionally there have been 42 bear incidents where bears have obtained trash left out or from trash cans or dumpsters that were not secure.

**Comparisons for the week of September 28 - October 4**

	1998	2008	Percent Change	2007	2008	Percent Change
Incidents	1469	377	-74.33%	449	377	-16.04%
Damage	\$627,483	\$67,030	-89.32%	\$80,714	\$67,030	-16.95%

### **WEEKLY BEAR ACTIVITY SUMMARY**

Bear activity has continued to be slow in Yosemite Valley. However, bears are still being observed weekly in the Pines Campgrounds and various other locations around the Valley. Please continue to store your food properly!

Two bears have been hit by vehicles this week! Please obey speed limits and pay attention to wildlife that may be crossing the road in front of you.

A younger bear has been in the area between Little Yosemite Valley and the John Muir Trail above the Half Dome Junction. This bear has been getting food from people, mostly leaving food unattended in backpacks. If you are hiking please keep your backpacks with you as bears may be out any time of the day or night. (T. Seher - 10/7/08)

### **Construction News (updated 10/10/08)**

**Wawona Road Patching Project:** Hardrives Construction will begin milling and patching on the Wawona Road (Rt. 41) on Tuesday, October 7th. Work hours will be 7:00 am-7:00 pm, Monday - Thursday. (Work has been approved and will occur on Columbus Day, 10/13/2008). Work will begin at Chinquapin to the Valley, then Chinquapin to Wawona. Single lane closures will occur. Pilot cars will be used to ensure no more than 15 minute delays. Work is expected to last 3 weeks. Park contact is L. Summerfield 379-1089. (L. Summerfield - 10/3/08)

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**On Monday, 10-6-08, concrete work will begin at Crane Flat Gas Station.** The station will remain open, but will be limited to only one or two fueling lanes. The store will remain open during all construction work. (D. Anthonijsz - 10/1/08)

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### **Rehab Curry Village Lounge and Registration Buildings**

Asbestos abatement work is in progress at the Lounge Bldg.

Demolition continues at Registration Bldg.

A/E firm is developing new electrical design that includes emergency power. This will have impacts to the progress schedule.

Work was stopped due to the Curry rockfall on October 8. Contractor intends to resume work on Tuesday, October 14. This will have impacts to progress schedule

### **Improve Signing at Shuttle Bus Stops**

Bunting is fabricating metal sign frames

Fiberglass sign panels have arrived

Brad Popp planning installation during month of November

### **Big Trees Tram Replacement**

GSA rep Jerry Knoll conducted site visit to Mariposa Grove on October 8

GSA/NPS/DNC to hold kick off meeting on October 9

### **Integrated Utilities Phase 2a** (from Ice Rink to Boys Town to North end of Lower Pines CG)

The Notice to Proceed was issued for October 14th

The areas the contractor will be working first will be in front of the Ice Rink and the North end of Lower Pines CG.

Tree removal, traffic rerouting and utility potholing will be the first activities.

### **West Village Utility Corridor** (sewer line from Yosemite School to Oak Lane to Ranger Y)

Potholing existing utilities at Ranger club 10/13/08 to 10/17/08

Drilling submittal has yet to be approved, drilling will begin week of 10/13/08.  
Set up of recycler at the school

**Rehabilitate North Pines Lift Station** (Part of CIP 1)

Project is complete.

**Sanitary Sewer Capital Improvements** (CIP 2)

Cleanup at Lower Pines continues.

Manhole removal in Lower Pines 10/14/08 to 10/24/08

**Replace Gas Chlorination Systems at 5 Utility Plants**

The Tuolumne Plant is complete except mod items.

The White Wolf Plant is completed except mod items.

Work at the Hodgdon wastewater treatment plant is completed except transfer switch.

**Hodgdon Meadow Generator**

PG & E switch over has been delayed.

Wire has been ordered.

**Valley Loop Road**

Southside Drive between El Capitan Crossover and the Chapel is now closed until October 30th, including bicycle traffic. (For special events in Cathedral, Yellow Pines, or Sentinel Beach, Please enter and exit from the west-El Capitan Crossover Side. Other than emergencies, no bicycle/vehicle access allowed between Yellow Pines/Sentinel Entrance and the Chapel Parking Lot.) The traffic detour continues with El Capitan Crossover becoming one-way northbound traffic and Northside Drive becoming two-way traffic between El Capitan Crossover and Yosemite Lodge. The Chapel will remain open with limited access while crews are working in that area (Check with the flagger stationed at Sentinel Bridge if you need access). Paving is ongoing and scheduled for completion the week of October 13th. Therefore, **there will be intermittent full day closures while they are paving in front of Cathedral, Yellow Pines and Sentinel Beach October 9th and October 17th.** The closures will occur during the week day and not on weekends. The exact dates of closure have not been determined because it will vary by the weather and paving progress.

Southside Drive between Wawona Road and El Capitan Crossover--Continued headwall and shoulder work ongoing during the day with one lane open to traffic.

Northside Drive between El Capitan Picnic Area and Hanging Valley View - Continued utility & headwall work during the day with one lane open to traffic.

**Wawona Tunnel Ventilation Repair**

Design of the ventilation system is ongoing.

Sidewalk panel replacement and repairs to the fan shafts are ongoing

**Tunnel View**

There will be small areas of the parking lots closed off thru October 17th (week days only) as crews complete stone repairs, asphalt paving, and cleaning operations.

Installation of signs, bear boxes and pavement markings will also be ongoing thru October 17th.

NPS Crews will be doing revegetation work thru October 22nd. (G. Rothell - 10/10/08)

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**El Portal Market Demo project** - El Portal Market Demo and Site Leveling Project will begin on September 8, 2008.

This project will be ongoing for the next 4 to 6 weeks weather permitting. Hours of work will be from 7:00am to 7:00pm Monday through Friday.

Men and equipment will be working in this area so watch your speed and look out for pedestrians. (T. Brochini - 9/9/08)

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**The Crane Flat Fire Lookout will be closed to the public until further notice.** The Historic Preservation Crew has closed the observation level of the lookout for repairs to the platform, siding, railings and stairs. (R. Kennec - 09/8/08)

## **Park News**

### **October 5-11, 2008 is Fire Prevention Week.**

The National Park Service is promoting this years theme: **Prevent Home Fires** by sharing fire prevention information in the latest NPS Structural Fire Newsletter. Here is what you can find in our latest newsletter.

Bring Fire Prevention Practice Home - Preventing fires at home and work

From Tragedy to Fire Prevention - How the Great Chicago and Peshtigo fires of 1871 have effected fire prevention

What's new on the Structural Fire Program web pages

A Flicker of Danger - Candle caused fires, what you should know.

Structural Fire Incidents - Are You Reporting?

DO/RM 58 Policy update

NPS FlashBack - An educational tool highlighting significant fire incidents in the NPS

Hotel/Motel Fire Safety - Fire safe travel tips

Plan Your Escape - You may have as little as 2 minutes to escape

Online Education - Portable Fire Extinguishers and Structural Fire for Managers courses on DOI Learn

Structural Fire Program Conference - January 2009

Detecting a Silent Killer - Protecting your family from carbon monoxide

Parks Slated to Receive New Engines

Check out Don Coffman's message for the newsletter. (D. Coffman - 10/7/08)

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**Half Dome Cables - Last date to use the cables is October 14.** Trail crew will be taking down the Half Dome cables on either Oct. 15th or 16th. The plan is to do it on the 15th, but if for some reason it takes longer it may stretch into the 16th. (M. Marschall/J. Trust - 9/25/08)

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### **Yosemite National Park Announces Public Scoping Period for The Tenaya Lake Area Plan - comment period extended to October 18th.**

Tenaya is the largest lake in Yosemite's front-country, and because of its remarkable scenic qualities and its proximity to Tioga Road, it is one of the most popular destinations for summer visitors in Yosemite. Problems associated with visitor use, visitor safety, and resource impacts have been occurring for decades.

Thanks to generous grants from The Yosemite Fund, a comprehensive analysis of, and solution to these issues is about to commence. The Tenaya Lake Area Plan will provide for a formal, public analysis of these long-standing issues and will provide a plan to remedy these issues. After the plan is complete, the park will continue with design development and implementation of the solutions identified in the plan.

Solutions for the Tenaya Lake plan may include ecological restoration, picnic area improvements, trailhead and parking improvements, comfort stations, and trails. In addition, an environmental assessment will be completed as part of this plan.

Currently, planning is underway for the Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River and the Tuolumne Meadows area. By working on the Tenaya Lake area plan concurrently with the Tuolumne Meadows plan, we can benefit from data that has already been acquired for Tuolumne Meadows.

Public scoping will remain open for 30 days, from September 4 to October 18, 2008, during which, comments with issues, ideas, and suggestions for the Tenaya Lake Area Plan may be submitted. The public will have a second formal comment period when the draft environmental assessment is ready for review.

Public participation is essential for the success of this and all other park projects.

Here are some ways to stay involved in the park:

A National Park Service public open house was held on Wednesday, September 24, from 1-5pm at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Auditorium

A Public Field Visit was conducted on Saturday, September 20, at 10am beginning at the large parking area at the east end of Tenaya Lake.

Add your name to the park's planning mailing list and receive the Planning Update newsletter as well as other planning-related notices. You can also submit your email address to receive the park's periodic electronic newsletter.

Additionally, you can submit comments with your thoughts about this topic or any other projects in the park by any of the following means:

**Mail:** Superintendent  
P.O. Box 577  
Yosemite, CA 95389

**Phone:** 209/379-1365; **Fax:** 209/379-1294

**E-mail:** [Yose\\_Planning@nps.gov](mailto:Yose_Planning@nps.gov)

**Visit online:** [www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/planning.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/planning.htm) to find out about plans and projects or [www.nps.gov/yose/naturescience/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/naturescience/index.htm) to find out about science & nature in Yosemite National Park. (-NPS-)

Editor's Note: For more information on The Yosemite Fund please visit [www.yosemitefund.org](http://www.yosemitefund.org)

## **Announcements**

### **MEMORANDUM**

To: Forest Supervisor

cc: Law Enforcement

From: Resource Protection

Date: 10/2/08

**Subject: Forest Order #15-08-01A – Fire Restriction Cancellation – Moderate & High Hazard Areas.**

The Sierra National Forest "Fire Restriction and Emergency Closure Plan" approved August 12, 2004, and Forest Service Manual 5110.4, gives authority and guidance on implementing or cancellation of actions that reduce the risk of certain ignition sources.

Criteria for cancellation of prohibitions through Forest Orders are based on three items as follows:

Weather conditions have moderated with cooler temperatures and higher humidity.

Burning conditions have moderated

Adequate resources are again available for initial attack

This request is for the cancellation of fire restrictions within the Sierra National Forest Moderate & High Hazard areas (Fire Danger Rating Area 532, 528 & 529, approximately 2,000 – 6,000 feet in elevation) at 18:00 hours, October 3rd, 2008.

Fuel moisture, weather conditions and adequate initial attack resources availability are the reason for this request. Specifically, a major, early winter storm will arrive with considerable precipitation. The recent cooler weather, higher humidity's and a small amount of precipitation at higher elevations has reduced the fire danger and the trend is expected to continue for the next 7 to 10 days. The Burning Indices for the past 10 days have moderated and are showing a downward trend at the weather stations representative of this area. The forest has met these criteria using.

The expected demand for resources to be mobilized out of the area is light at this time, and fire activity has moderated throughout the west in the last two weeks.

\s\ Curtis E. Palmer

CURTIS E. PALMER

Forest Fire Management Officer

Concurrence of Forest Supervisor: \s\Edward C. Cole\_\_\_\_\_ Date: 10/02/08\_\_ (K. Martin - 10/9/08)

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### **Closing of Glacier Point Housing**

As a reminder, the Glacier Point housing will be closing October 15.

Water will be drained and cabins winterized. No one will be permitted to live in the cabins beyond this date.

If you have employees that need to be housed in another housing area after October 15, please give me a call. (C. Baker/T. Brochini)

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INVITATION: Tunnel View Rededication (start time change)

### **ALL EMPLOYEES INVITED...**

...to the Tunnel View Rededication event on Friday, October 24. **The event begins at 10:45am at Tunnel View Overlook.** Remarks will be given at 11:00am by Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne, National Park Service Director Mary Bomar, and Yosemite Officials.

The parking lots will be closed during the event; however, shuttle service will be provided from both Bridalveil Parking Lot and Valley Visitor Parking Lot (Day Use Parking) from 9:30-12:15. Please car pool to these locations and take the shuttle. Bag lunches and dessert will be served at the Yosemite Valley School following the event at 12:15pm.

**If you plan on attending, you must reply to this message with an RSVP to Jeffry Sorensen by COB Tuesday, October 7. Only those that RSVP will be able to attend the lunch.** (J. Sorensen/V. Mates - 10/2/08)

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### **BID ANNOUNCEMENT - EMPLOYEE HOUSING**

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK NATIONAL PARK SERVICE GOVERNMENT HOUSING

EL PORTAL HOUSING AREA

APARTMENT #746J - 9731 BARIUM MINE ROAD

2 Bedrooms – 1 Bathroom + carport / 940 Sq. Ft. – Built in 1993 \$273.15 bi-weekly plus utilities

DEADLINE FOR BID SUBMISSION - October 17, 2008 (Close of Business)

Eligible Employees must be NPS Permanent, Term, or SCEP (Student Career Experience Program)

Please contact the Housing Management Office for bid forms and/or additional information. 379-1839 or 379-1879 (Y. Radanovich - 10/2/08)

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### **Records Management Training is Back!**

The Yosemite National Park Superintendent's Office announces a two-day intensive, hands-on, Records and Files Management training with Susan Ewing Haley, Park Archivist and Records Manager for Golden Gate National Recreation Area. An engaging teacher, Susan has the ability to make the topic real, applicable, and entertaining – and will help you produce measurable results by the end of the training!

**Who:** For *ANY* park employee involved in producing or handling park records or files documenting park activities, who would like guidance in resolving files management and records backlog issues.

**What:** A records and files management class including instruction in basic records management philosophy, law, and policy, combined with hands-on exercises in your own work-space, with your own records. By the end of the training, you should be able to:

Look at a body of records and know what to do with them

Know how to deal with older temporary records

Know how to identify and protect records with permanent value

**\*\*Special Requirement:** Employees must have full approval and support from supervisors to dedicate the full two days to the training. Class time in the office/workspace must be dedicated to hands-on exercises with your records. Ideally, employees should be within 15 minutes of their work space to facilitate movement between records and the classroom. *Class participants from remote locations will be provided with in-class exercises if travel to/from work site is not feasible. Please note your travel issues when registering.*

**When:**

Yosemite Valley – East Auditorium

**December 3:** 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**December 4:** 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**December 15:** 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., follow-up conference call with instructor

Class size is limited. To reserve your space, please call 379-1283 **by Friday November 21.** (Yosemite Superintendent Office - 10/1/08)

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**Campground updates:**

Tuolumne Meadows campground has closed for the season.

Porcupine Flat campground will remain open until October 15th.

Tamarack Flat will be closed on October 10th.

Crane Flat and Lower Pines campgrounds will close on October 13th.

North Pines will remain open until November 3rd

Hodgdon Meadow, Upper Pines, Camp 4 and Wawona campgrounds will remain open all year (S. Ogden - 9/30/08)

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**Housing Relocations, Changes, and Vacates**

In the next few days and weeks, we will be moving employees down from the high-country.

Please let other seasonal staff know that they need to be prepared to accept new resident(s) at any time, and to please welcome the new resident.

As a reminder the scheduled closing dates for the high-country housing are:

**White Wolf Cabins - September 27**

**Tuolumne Tents - October 1**

**Tuolumne Cabins - October 15**

**Glacier Point Cabins - October 15**

The dates above indicate when water and sewer service will no longer be available. For the health and safety of all, employees need to be out

of these assigned housing units on or before the listed closing date above.

In the last few weeks we have had several employees vacate their assigned housing without checking out properly. Sometimes resulting in additional charges to the employee.

Remind **all** employees residing in government housing of the correct check-out procedure below.

Call Housing to schedule their check out appointment

Properly clean their unit

Complete a walk-through of their unit

Sign the checkout form

Return all housing keys (C. Baker/T. Brochini - 9/24/08)

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**This year the Federal Women's Program will help send ten participants to the Professional Business Women of California Conference on November 13th, at the Sacramento Convention Center.** This conference is for all working women, not just for women in business. The Federal Women's Program will cover the \$175 registration fee for ten people, but participants must work with their supervisors to cover travel costs. Slots will be filled on a first come, first served basis, and must be filled by October 16th. Contact Kristin Ramsey for questions or to reserve a space. For more information, visit [www.pbwc.org](http://www.pbwc.org).

From the website:

***Join the largest gathering of professional women in the Sacramento Area for a day of learning, networking and inspiration. Local and national experts will share the latest strategies for career advancement, leadership, communication, work/life balance, women's health, personal finance, entrepreneurship, and much more.*** (K. Ramsey - 9/13/08)



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**Drop in program:** Come join the Habitat Protectors of Yosemite (HaPY) program! Program runs Fridays from May2-October 31st. Work with park staff to remove invasive plants and learn basic ecological principles. All volunteers are required to wear pants and closed-toe shoes. Long sleeves, sunscreen, water, and snacks are recommended. Meet in front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center at 9am. Bring a lunch and join us! (M. DeBree - 5/1/08)

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Reminder: For ***all Maintenance repair*** requests in Yosemite, please contact the **Customer Service Center**. Maintenance repair requests include: Park Housing, Buildings, Grounds, Utilities, Roads, Trails and Forestry issues. It is especially important to remember to contact the Customer Service Center before any requests for Sign Shop fabrications. You may do so by phone, e-mail or fax.

Please note that the Customer Service Center staff phone numbers have changed:

Phone:

Tiffany Jordan.....379-1058  
Jessy Clingenpeel.....379-1428  
Katie Brown.....379-1210  
Sunshine Good Morning.....379-1065

E-Mail:

**YOSE\_FMD\_Customer\_Service\_Center@nps.gov**

Fax:

(209) 379-1066 (S. Goodmorning - 10/1/08)

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**The following Yosemite National Park employees have been approved for participation in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program:**

Shari Baudoux  
Kevin Bowman  
Kimberly Cunningham-Summerfield  
Sarah J. Henderson  
Linda Kelly  
Mike Robertson

If you are interested in contributing annual leave to any of the above individuals, please do so by completing a Request to donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient (Within Agency) Under the Leave Transfer Program, [Optional Form 630-A \(OF 639-A\)](#).

Please forward your OF 630-A to:

Human Resources Office  
Yosemite National Park  
P.O. Box 700  
El Portal, CA 95318  
or fax to (209) 379-1800

Click [HERE](#) for more Information on the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program. (T. Hawkins - 7/18/08)

**HR Corner**

To all NPS employees -

**Subject: Do delete messages from HSPD12Admin@eds.com**

**Please do not delete email messages you receive from HSPD12Admin with the subject "USAccess - Sponsorship**

## Complete"

As many of you may have heard, all Federal employees will receive a new standard employee ID card. President Bush defined this requirement through Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD12) as one of many efforts to improve security in the aftermath of September 11, 2001. You may have heard these referred to as "smart cards" or HSPD12 cards. For the government as a whole these are now officially referred to as USAccess cards and the Department of the Interior is referring to its cards as DOIAccess cards.

The processes for USAccess card creation and distribution is government-wide, not agency specific. While the Regional Office HR program has some role regarding data accuracy, it does not control the process.

Given the unfamiliar and cryptic email address and subject line, you might think the message might be some kind of spam or IT security risk. Thank you for your ongoing vigilance about that, but for this case, please do not delete the message.

Follow the instructions and enroll for your HSPD12 card.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Tami Barton at 379-1868, Trudy Hawkins at 379-1802 or Cindy Whitten at 379-1878 (C. Whitten - 10/8/08)

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**Use or Lose (Restored) Leave:** Generally, employees must use any accrued annual leave in excess of 240 hours prior to the end of the leave year - or lose it ("use or lose leave"). The end of this leave year (2008) is Saturday, January 3, 2009.

Employees may be eligible to have use or lose leave restored due to:

~ exigency of the public business

~ administrative error or

~ employee illness

**provided** any such leave was scheduled and approved in writing prior to the start of the third to the last pay period of the leave year - or, this year, **prior** to Saturday, November 22, 2008.

Remember, in order to have use or lose leave restored you'll need to provide the **original** signed leave slip as part of your request package (stay tuned for more details on this sometime early next year).

Any questions? Give a holler. (T. Hawkins - 9/26/08)

## Community News

### **Yosemite Reunion - October 26-30, 2008**

Butch Farabee and Kim Tucker are organizing a reunion of current and former residents at employees of Yosemite National Park. There will be a few presentations, some shared meals, and free time included during the week to allow plenty of time enjoying the park and the company of friends. **Sunday, 10/26:** We plan to have **light refreshments at the Girl's Club** on Sunday, Oct. 26, during the late afternoon to early evening.

**Monday, 10/27: Registration for the reunion will take place at the East Auditorium** on Monday morning, October 27, **beginning at 10 a.m.** There are no events planned for Monday morning—time to enjoy the park and meet with friends. The Yosemite Child Care Center is planning to cook a BBQ lunch for the reunion attendees—donations will be appreciated. Superintendent Mike Tollefson will welcome the group after lunch. Assistant Park Archivist Brenna Lissoway will present a preview of the Yosemite Oral History Project on Monday afternoon. There are no evening events planned to allow everyone to enjoy the park and dinner on their own.

**Tuesday, 10/28: We will have a continental breakfast available at the East Auditorium on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.** Former Chief Law Enforcement Officer Lee Shackelton will share his memories of some of the many intriguing cases from the park's files. Lee's presentation will be followed by a discussion about the 1976-77 airplane crash at Lower Merced Pass Lake. Writer Rich Schloss will provide insights he has gained while researching this notable case.

We expect many people attending the reunion will enjoy an opportunity to learn about this interesting event and that some in attendance will share personal recollections of their time at the lake. We are finalizing arrangements with Sal's Restaurant to cater a delicious informal dinner at the East Auditorium. Pioneer rock climber Wayne Merry will be the featured speaker on Tuesday evening, sharing information about his first ascent on El Cap fifty years ago.

**Wednesday, 10/29:** Wednesday will be a busy day. Rick Sylvester will present information about his adventures in the park, including information about skiing from the top of El Cap. Delaware North Company, the park's primary concessioner will host a tour of the Ahwahnee hotel. The hotel will be interesting for anyone who has ever been interested in a "backstage" look at the hotel. Those interested in staying at the hotel for lunch may purchase a delicious lunch on their own, or join partake of a special menu created for reunion participants. The NPS will hold an "Open House" at the East Auditorium on Wednesday afternoon. This open house is open to the general public, and is an opportunity to meet with park staff who are engaged in park planning and project implementation. DNC will cater a BBQ dinner on Wednesday evening at the East Auditorium. Mike Osborne will present a slide show following dinner that will remind us all of our love for the park and the friendships that we share. Please feel free to call Kim Tucker if you have any questions. We have a website, but acknowledge that the website information is limited and subject to change. (<http://blog.yosemitereunion.info>).

*If you plan to join us for any catered meals, we would appreciate an RSVP by 10/17/08.*

**Thank you. See you soon! Kim Tucker Work: 209-372-0272 (K. Tucker - 10/8/08)**

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### **Flu Shot Clinic**

The Yosemite Medical Clinic will be hosting it annual flu shot clinic from 1000AM to 2:00 PM. on Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the Yosemite Medical Clinic, Sunroom. **The flu vaccine is open to all with no restrictions.** Persons 65 or older, chronic medical conditions and women who will be more than 12 weeks pregnant are encouraged to get vaccinated. The cost will be \$20.00, same as last year, for this date only.

Additionally, The County of Mariposa, Health Department will be here in the Yosemite Valley on Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008 from 1000-1100 at the Yosemite Medical Clinic, Sunroom. The county will administer flu shots free of charge to high-risk populations within the county. Please call 1-900-459-4466 or 966-3689 for information on the county program. Sean Pence, Yosemite Medical Clinic, Manager (S. Pence - 10/8/08)

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### **Employment opportunity at Yosemite Medical Clinic**

The Yosemite Medical Clinic is currently accepting applications for the position of Receptionist (Part Time). We are looking for a highly motivated applicant with the ability to multitask and work independently. The position provides a competitive salary.

Because of the limited housing available with the clinic, applicants must provide their own housing. Interested applicants please provide a resume.

Any additional questions or to request a job description please contact Sean Pence, Manager YMC.

Closing date will be 10-10-08

9000 Ahwahnee Dr.

Yosemite, Ca. 95389

372-4637, 372-4330 Fax. (S. Pence - 10/8/08)

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6TH STREET CINEMA is a non-profit theater, and the presentation arm of the Rural Media Arts and Education Project, a 501(c)(3) corporation. We are

supported by the California Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, SierraTel, the James Irvine Foundation, Mariposa County, and the Geoff & Josie Fox Family Foundation (a donor advised fund of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation), Iron Mountain Systems and Stonecutter.com. We are also funded by a \$1.3 million grant from the California Cultural and Historical Endowment (CCHE) for the complete restoration of our building, the historic Old Masonic Lodge on 6th Street, in downtown Mariposa. Monthly membership is \$12, allowing film entry for \$3 each; non-members pay \$7 per film, and non-member students pay \$5. Recorded Information: (209) 966-1333. Staff: 209 742-6666. <http://www.sixthstreetcinema.org>. E-mail us:[sixthstreetcinema@sti.net](mailto:sixthstreetcinema@sti.net)

This week's film:

Oct. 10-11 (Fri-Sat) 7:30 p.m.: JELLYFISH. (Not rated; 78 minutes; in Hebrew, English, Tagalog, and German with English subtitles.) In the tradition of Babel, this 2007 Israeli ensemble comedy/drama tells the stories of three women in Tel Aviv whose intersecting lives paint a portrait of modern Israeli life, against the allegoric backdrop of the sea. Winner of the Camera D'Or prize at the 2007 Cannes Film Festival.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT 6TH STREET (all events begin at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted):

Oct. 14 (10:45 a.m.) ASIAN FOLKLORE. (Children's event\*).

Oct. 14: NYPL LIVE (Free Admission).

Oct. 17: THE FALL.

Oct. 21 (10:45 a.m.) AFRICAN FOLKLORE. (Children's event\*).

Oct. 24-25: TAXI TO THE DARK SIDE.

Oct. 28: (10:45 a.m.) THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW. (Children's event\*).

OCT. 31: THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW.

(\*Kid's Film and Book Club sponsored by the Whitney Foundation.) (T. Arfsten - 10/8/08)

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## **CHANGING SEASONS**

### **BALANCED HEALTH**

**sponsored by Balanced** Rock Foundation

A monthly column addressing health promotion, and injury prevention in Yosemite

When I moved from the coast to Yosemite, I so appreciated the changing of the seasons. The summer heat has left us. We now experience brisk mornings, the golden colors of the grasses, and the dogwoods color of pink and magenta. A season, a year, an era, and so goes the transition of life.

Life is a process of beginnings and endings. In both human life and nature, there are times when things move slowly and don't seem to change much. Then one day, it can be felt, sensed and our perceptions anew. Life transitions are challenging because they force us to let go of the familiar and face the future with a feeling of vulnerability.

The seasonal employees within the park are dispersing. I ask many where they will go during the winter and if they will return for another summer here in Yosemite. The response is mostly to return and capture the magic that we all feel when here. But it will never be as it was, each passing has it's own character, an episode, like the rings on a tree. Transition in life gives us a time to reflect and learn about our strengths. It also is a time to explore and redefine what is important to our soul.

I also will be in transition this autumn and leaving the park. With hopes to return next summer in a new role with NPS, I will pause to thank each of you for letting me into your life on the intimate level of nurse to patient. It is an honor that I respect highly.

Embrace transition and the gifts that change reveals. To your health!

Linda Lee RN, FNP-C

Linda Lee will be posting the Balanced Health column from afar as she travels to Guatemala and beyond this winter. (K. Kurihara - 10/6/08)

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## **Update Yosemite Medical Clinic - Winter Hours of Operation**

Reminder:

The winter hours of operation for the Yosemite Medical Clinic are:

Open seven days a week 0800-1800 walk-ins and appointments accepted.

After hours operations are from 1900-0700 for EMERGENCY CASES ONLY.

These hours are in effect from October 1st, 2008 through April 30th, 2009. (S. Pence - 10/1/08)

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**The El Portal Yosemite Institute office is now a drop-off center for the Rechargeable Battery Recycling**

**Corporation.** We can accept consumer-sized Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd), Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH), Lithium Ion (Li-ion) and Small Sealed Lead (Pb) batteries and cell phones. Lead batteries must weigh under 2 pounds. Please do not try to recycle other types of rechargeable batteries or non-rechargeable batteries here. Our office is the large white building with a green roof next to where Hugh's Market used to be, 10901 Hwy 140 W. Please stop by while the office is open, Monday-Thursday 8am-6pm and Friday 8am-4pm and ask for assistance. (C. Williams - 10/1/08)

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**NEED COMMUNITY PARTICIPANTS TO VOLUNTEER FOR BRACEBRIDGE PERFORMANCES AT THE AHWAHNEE**

At this time of year we want all interested Valley residents to register to participate in non-speaking parts as Villagers, Forest Folk, and Litter Bearers in the Bracebridge Dinners at The Ahwahnee.

Even if you have registered last year or in past years, please contact us again. We must renew our listings every year.

Families and people of all ages are welcome. Children **MUST** be accompanied by a parent. No exceptions.

Performances this year include December 15-16, 18-19, 21-22, 24 and 26 (Christmas Day is all yours!). You are not required to participate in all the dinners but necessary to perform in as many as possible, preferably at least 4 nights. You will be required to attend a rehearsal scheduled at a later date prior to the first performance (TBA).

Performances and waiting periods during the evening are long, and you may need to kneel and be in reasonably good shape! Your contribution to the glorious Christmas pageantry is voluntary but you will have beautiful memories and be provided with a hearty Dinner Buffet.

Sign up TODAY with Cynthia McFann, Sales Manager for DNC at (559) 692-8951. Leave a voice-mail with name, mailing address, phone number, and work unit, or email [cmcfann@dncinc.com](mailto:cmcfann@dncinc.com) PRIOR to October 30<sup>th</sup>. She will send you the required paperwork to be completed and turned in.

Thank you all for your contributions throughout the years. Hope you can join us this year.

Martha Miller,

Production Manager. (C. McFann - 9/29/08)

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**BLM is closing Bull Creek Road @ Briceburg near SR 140 WEEKDAYS ONLY from 10/06/2008 - 11/14/2008 for road construction.** Please distribute as appropriate Jeff Babcock, Civil Engineering Technician, Folsom Field Office, BLM. (J. Babcock/A. Long - 9/29/08)

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**CPR/ First Aid training:** The Yosemite Training Center is offering First Aid and CPR classes for October and November. Get signed up now by calling the Yosemite Medical Clinic at 372-4637. (B. Shoor - 9/24/08)

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**ANPR is sponsoring two training courses at this year's Ranger Rendezvous in Santa Fe. Situational Leadership**

will be taught in a humorous, real-life style by retired Deputy Regional Director Art Eck. Participants will receive 16 hours of certified supervisory training towards their required 40 hours. Also offered is the **Introduction to Resource Stewardship**, coordinated and instructed by a team from Horace Albright Training Center, led by Jeri Hall. This course is the first in a four-part curriculum that "projects a philosophy of protection and interdisciplinary collaboration for enhanced resource protection". It is meant for employees of all disciplines, not just resource managers or park rangers.

Employees still have an opportunity to apply for the Bill Supernaugh Memorial Scholarship, which pays registration, lodging, and \$500 towards transportation costs to attend one's first Ranger Rendezvous. **Application deadline is October 10th, winners should be notified by November 1st.**

The Rendezvous is a professional and social gathering for all disciplines within the NPS. It will be held December 10-14 at Santa Fe's historic La Fonda Hotel. For more information on training being offered, check the training link on InsideNPS, or see the fall issue of Ranger Magazine in the park's library. To find out more about the Ranger Rendezvous, go to InsideNPS – upcoming events, or visit the Association website at [www.anpr.org](http://www.anpr.org). Scholarship applications and a draft Rendezvous agenda are available on the ANPR website as well. (L. Roberts - 9/15/08)

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## **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS - EL PORTALIAN 2008 This year's theme: "Travel"**

Greetings El Portal and Yosemite Community! It is that time of year again.

We are gathering submissions for the 2008 El Portalian. The El Portalian is a local literary magazine, highlighting the incredible talent and passion of the people living in this inspirational place. Please send us your writing, poetry, essays, artwork, photos, song lyrics, creative thoughts. This year's theme is travel, however, submissions do not necessarily have to relate.

### **EXTENDED DUE DATE: OCTOBER 15, 2008**

Please email submissions to: Heather Sullivan [heather@balancedrockfoundation.org](mailto:heather@balancedrockfoundation.org) Submissions need to be typed in a word document, please not in the body of an email. Photos need to be scanned and in digital, easy to use format.

If anyone would like to help volunteer on this project, please email above or call 209.379.9453.

Our goal is to have this printed by the end of the year, but will depend on submissions and involvement. We look forward to your submissions and to making another wonderful collaborative community piece of art! (H. Sullivan - 10/1/08)

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### **Yoga Jambalaya Sunday, October 19th, 2008**

Please join Balanced Rock Foundation and the Yosemite Bug Hostel for a wonderful day of yoga classes, spa time, delicious food and a wonderful community. This is our second Yoga Jambalaya.

Yoga Jambalaya is a day of 6 yoga classes that we encourage participants to pick and choose from leaving time for spa use, bistro meals and connection to fellow yoga students.

Location: Yosemite Bug Hostel Midpines, CA

Cost: \$15/class or 3 classes/\$40, \$7 lunch buffet, Spa and sauna day pass included with yoga class purchase.

Schedule: (Please arrive at least 15 minutes before class to insure spot)

8:00am-9:00am *Intermediate Yoga Class* with Reen

9:15-10:15am *Intro to Meditation and Pranayama* with Cynthia Ramaciotti

10:30-12:00 *Intro to Yoga Asana* with Anna Landauer

Lunch Buffet served from 12:00pm-2pm

1:00-1:50 *Yoga Philosophy* with BRF staff

2:00-3:15 *Vinyasa Flow* with Schuyler Greenleaf

3:30-5:00 *Inversions* with Anna Landauer

5:15-6:30 *Restorative Yoga* with Heather Sullivan

For further information on these events, please email: [heather@balancedrockfoundation.org](mailto:heather@balancedrockfoundation.org)

Visit our website for in depth description of these events: [www.balancedrockfoundation.org](http://www.balancedrockfoundation.org) (H. Sullivan - 9/25/08)

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### **Halloween Whoop-La—Groveland Style Friday, October 31st**

This year Grovelanders and visitors from around the world will enjoy another deluge of fairy-tale costumed children parading our Main Street with parents in tow seeking out the sweetest treats and the scariest stops.

Each year hundreds of children and families dress up and head to downtown Groveland for a costume party at Mary Laveroni Community Park with games and contests and then at 5:00pm they trick-or-treat the 4 blocks of our downtown.

For those without kids or grandkids to provide the necessary cover to enjoy the evening, there are several Yosemite Chamber of Commerce member venues that are great viewing seats to plant yourself for the evening watching all the kids go by. The Groveland Hotel with their new look in the dining room makes a delicious stop with Chef Greg's gourmet menu and a fantastic wine list. Reservations 209-962-4000

The Iron Door Saloon is a fantasy stop...perfect for Halloween "Boo" s and Hoots & Hollers. Guests can plan on staying the evening for an adult Halloween Party after the young trick or treaters are abed with their sweet dreams! Live Music, Great Costumes, lots of fun!

This year the Hotel Charlotte restaurant will be open and routing the fairy-tale costumed kids right through the middle of the dining room where the huge barrel of candy will sit providing diners superb photo opportunities of the candy-march



festivities. The Charlotte is reserving the dining room for one seating only so guests have their tables for the whole affair. Special treats will be awarded to those who come to dinner dressed in costume. Out of town guests who have dinner at the Charlotte qualify for Stay & Play room pricing from \$99, [www.HotelCharlotte.com/play.html](http://www.HotelCharlotte.com/play.html). Reserve early, 209-962-6455.

We invite you to visit our member Restaurants & Hotels while in downtown Groveland for this year's Halloween festivities.

Yosemite Chamber of Commerce  
[www.YosemiteChamberofCommerce.com](http://www.YosemiteChamberofCommerce.com)

209-962-0429 (Hotel Charlotte - 10/9/08)

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**On November 5-8, 2008, the University of California White Mountain Research Station (WMRS) and the Consortium for Integrated Climate Research in Western Mountains (CIRMOUNT) will host a conference at the Tri-Valley fairgrounds located in Bishop, California.** The conference entitled "Climate, Ecosystems and Resources in Eastern California" (CEREC), will bring together distinguished researchers from a variety of scientific disciplines as well as land and resource managers from throughout Eastern California and Western Nevada. WMRS invites interested scientists and managers to submit abstracts for talks and/or posters.

On Thursday night, November 6, at 7:00 PM. WMRS invites the public to attend a talk by Mr. David Nahai, CEO and general manager of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP). Mr. Nahai will discuss DWP's strategy for adapting to changing climates and water resources. This talk is free to the public and is being held at the Methodist Church, 205 North Fowler, Bishop.

Early registration for the conference ends September 20. For details of the schedule, registration information, and instructions for submitting abstracts please visit the WMRS website at: <http://www.wmrs.edu/projects/CEREC> (G. Stock - 9/15/08)

## Acting Designation

Bret Meldrum (379-1216) will be Acting Chief of Resources Management and Science on October 10. (N. Nicholas - 10/10/08)

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Shane Fairbanks will be Acting Corrals Supervisor until November 9, 2008, while Johanna Wheeler is on leave. For any stock related questions, Shane can be reached at the NPS Corrals at 372-0575. (J. Wheeler - 10/10/08)

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Sonny Montague is the acting Branch Chief for Anthropology and Archeology on Friday, October 10. She can be reached at 379-1313. (L. Kirn - 10/10/08)

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Lisa Acree (379-2177) will be acting Branch Chief of Vegetation and Ecological Restoration on 10/10. (J. Weaser - 10/9/08)

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Mark Husbands will be Acting Branch Chief of Design for Project Management October 10th thru the 15th and may be reached at 379-1364. If unavailable you may leave a message with Tricia Radmacher at 379-1221. Bernadette Barthelenghi will be Acting Branch Chief of Design for Project Management October 16th and 17th and may be reached at 379-1025. If unavailable you may leave a message with Tricia Radmacher at 379-1221. (D.Harrison 10/09/08)

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Historian Pat Chapin will be acting Branch Chief for HAL on Friday, Oct. 10th. (D. Humphrey - 10/8/08)

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Mike Beasley will be acting Fire Chief through Oct 15th while I am on annual leave. He can be reached at 209-375-9574. (K. Martin - 10/7/08)

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Tolley Gorham (379-1092) will be the acting Communications Branch Chief October 3, 2008 through October 11, 2008 and Nancy Bissmeyer (379-1188) will be the acting Communications Branch Chief October 12, 2008 through October 19,2008 while I am on Annual Leave. (D. Thorpe - 10/3/08)

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Victor Goldman will be acting Resources Management and Science Division Liaison from Fri Oct 3rd-Fri Oct 10th. Victor can be reached at 379-3280. (C. Knipper - 10/3/08)

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Starting Monday, Sept. 21, 2008 until Oct. 11, 2008 Lorene Schafer will be the Acting Administrative Officer for Larry Harris. During this timeframe Larry Harris will be the Acting Deputy Superintendent while Kevin is on annual leave. (P. Humphrey - 9/19/08)

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Cindy Whitten is the Acting HRO while Heather is on Maternity Leave. Heather is expecting to return back to work in Mid December. (C. Whitten - 9/16/08)

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I will be on detail as the Acting Chief Ranger at Lake Mead, during my absence the following people will be the acting Operations Branch Chief.

Leslie Reynolds: August 9-October 25

Eric Gabriel: October 26-December 7 (C. Cuvelier/L. Reynolds - 10/7/08)

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The Monday and online editions of The Daily Report continue as the long version. The Tuesday - Friday email version will be shortened to include only new and "happening today" information. Please plan your submittals accordingly. To view the long version please visit <http://www.yose.nps.gov/yosenet/intp/daily.htm> (intranet) or **<http://www.nps.gov/yose/parknews/upload/daily.pdf>** (internet).

We cut and paste submissions and generally do not correct submitted copy. Entries must be in by 7:00am the day of publication. There are no weekend or holiday editions. Submissions: email [yose\\_daily\\_report@nps.gov](mailto:yose_daily_report@nps.gov)  
Yosemite's *Daily Report* is an internal memorandum of long standing intended to provide timely administrative information needed for daily park operations. The primary purpose of the report is to serve as a communication tool for park management to pass specific operational information to field employees of Yosemite National Park, park partners, concessioners, and related government agencies in a fast and efficient manner and offer a format for interdivisional, interagency, and general intra-park notifications. Although the *Daily Report* is intended exclusively as an internal memorandum, it is posted here in an effort to extend timely operational information to the communities surrounding the park. Content in the the *Daily Report* is compiled from numerous sources and, in the interest of expediency, appears unedited.